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For Release to PM's, SEPTEMBER 11, 1961

The 100 National Fish Hatcheries increased their output 15 percent over that of the previous year to replenish fish in many lakes and streams. Twelve laboratories and 11 field stations for fisheries and three laboratories for wildlife carried on increased research to solve problems. Fishery management help given on about 200 Federal installations added materially in providing for 1,880,000 man days of fishing on these installations. A survey showed that federally-stocked farm ponds provide 20 million man days fishing every year.

Federal aid funds derived from excise taxes on sporting guns and ammunition and on sporting rods, reels, creels and artificial lures, were distributed to the States and made possible many more pleasant hours afield for those who fish and hunt.

The 1960 survey is comparable in coverage to the 1955 National Survey of Fishing and Hunting conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Service. It was explained that the overall 50 million hunters-fishermen figure was derived from a separate special survey conducted for the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. This survey added the occasional hunters and fishermen to those who pursued their sport more than a day or two or purchased a license or spent more than \$5.00.

The number of anglers and hunters has increased at a faster rate over the past five years than the population of our country, according to the 1960 fishing and hunting survey report. The total population increased 11 percent in the five-year period while the number of fishermen and hunters increased 22 and 24 percent respectively. The number of women who hunt increased by 106 percent, while the number of lady anglers was 21 percent higher than in 1955. The 38 percent increase in salt-water fishermen accounted for a considerable part of the overall increase in fishing.

The survey report shows that 30,435,000 Americans 12 years or older spent all or part of 658 million days fishing and hunting. They traveled 26.4 billion passenger miles by car in pursuit of fish and game. This compared with 24,917,000 anglers and hunters, 567 billion recreation-days of fishing and hunting, and 24 billion passenger miles by auto in 1955.

The total expenditures of nearly \$4 billion in 1960 for fishing and hunting compared with \$2,851,000,000 in 1955. The 1960 expenditures are distributed as follows on a percentage basis: licenses, 3; food and lodging, 10; transportation expenses, 14; fishing and hunting equipment, 17; auxiliary equipment, 32, and privilege fees and other expenses, 24.

In 1960 there were 25,323,000 sport fishermen and 14,637,000 hunters. These figures include 9,525,000 persons who both fished and hunted.

The anglers dropped their lines into the water on 412 million fishing trips totaling 466 million recreation-days; they traveled more than 18 billion automobile-passenger-miles and spent \$2.7 billion. The hunters made 178 million trips, piled up 193 million recreation-days on hunting, traveled 7.6 billion automobile-passenger-miles and spent in excess of \$1 billion

Salt water beckoned over six million anglers who spent more than \$600 million. This is an increase of 1.7 million anglers and an increase of \$137 million in expenditures compared with 1955.

There were 6.3 million persons who hunted big game in 1960 and 12 million who hunted small game. On the average, small-game hunters spent \$60 per hunter, while big-game hunters spent \$55.

The survey shows a total of 1,955,000 persons who hunted waterfowl in 1960. Expenditures for this type hunting were \$89 million in 1960 compared with \$119 million in 1955.

The increase in the popularity of fishing and hunting is also noted in the number of households having at least one angler or nimrod. These increased from 17 million households in 1955 to 20 million in 1960.

In the population 18 years old and over in 1960, one woman in every ten fished, one in every 69 hunted; and one man in every five hunted and one in every four fished.

Large cities supplied eight percent more anglers and 29 percent more hunters in 1960 compared with 1955. Population increase in these cities was five percent. Small cities had a population increase of three percent but showed a five percent increase in fishermen and seven percent in hunters. Towns declined three percent in population, 17 percent in hunters and half of one percent in anglers. The number of anglers from rural areas was up seven percent and the number of hunters up 39 percent, while the population increase was 27 percent.

The 1960 survey, like the one in 1955, was requested by the International Association of State Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners. The Association has also requested that the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife make a national fishing and hunting survey at least every ten years. The 1960 survey was made by the Bureau of the Census under a contract with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. The Bureau of the Census also made the survey for the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission.

The cost of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife report and the survey on which it is based was borne entirely from funds derived from excise taxes on sporting arms and ammunition and on certain types of fishing tackle. These funds, except for administrative costs, are allocated to the States for fish and wildlife restoration work. The funds expended for this survey would have been so allocated had they not been used for the survey, made at the request of the States. Consequently, the expenditure of funds on this survey has had no effect whatever on the Federal budget.

Copies of the 1960 report are available through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. The price of the report is \$0.50. Its title is 1960 National Survey of Fishing and Hunting--Circular 120.

Note to Editors: A tabular summary of the information and six graphs for illustration of articles may be secured by contacting the Office of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C.

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